



## COLLEGE STATION POLICE DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Scott McCollum, Police Chief

**FROM:** Thomas Brown, Lieutenant 346 TJB

**REF:** Professional Standards – 2018 Use of Force Analysis

**DATE:** May 23, 2019

Reviewed/Approved  
[Signature]  
5/30/19

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### STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The College Station Police Department policy manual requires an annual analysis of all use of force reports be conducted and presented to the Chief of Police.

### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is an area of paramount concern to not only the community but law enforcement agencies. An employee's use of force must always be reasonable and necessary under the circumstances that exist and should be no greater than the least amount of force necessary to accomplish the law enforcement objective.

With that in mind, the department has established policy to provide guidelines with *Chapter 42 – Use of Force* of the policy manual. The policy includes definitions, general provisions, options of force, deadly force, training, use of force report, death or serious physical injury caused by employees and records.

The reporting guidelines of policy requires an employee to complete a use of force report before the end of the shift or as soon as possible when an employee takes any action that results in or is alleged to have resulted in injury or death to another person, uses hard empty hand control, points a firearm or Taser at any person, uses a chemical irritant, uses an impact weapon, discharges a firearm or uses a diversionary device. Each report should contain a narrative or attached report to describe the employee's actions. The UOF report and related materials will be routed for review through the chain of command to the Bureau Chief. If it is determined

during the chain of command review that improper procedure occurred appropriate action will be initiated.

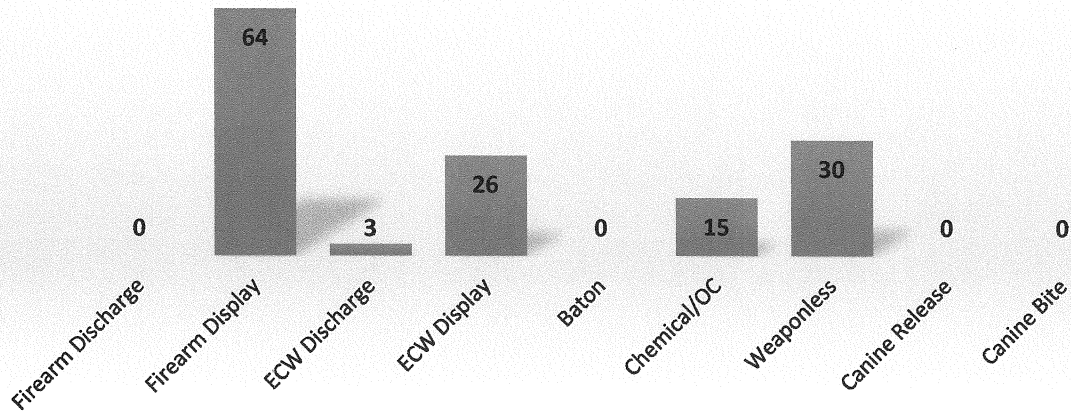
The College Station Police Department has a well-established accreditation status with CALEA which demonstrates the department's commitment to best practices and ensures it is complying with nationally recognized standards for excellence. I reviewed *CALEA Law Enforcement Standard 1.3 Use of Force* to ensure our policy reflects our practice.

### **2018 College Station Police Department Use of Force Analysis**

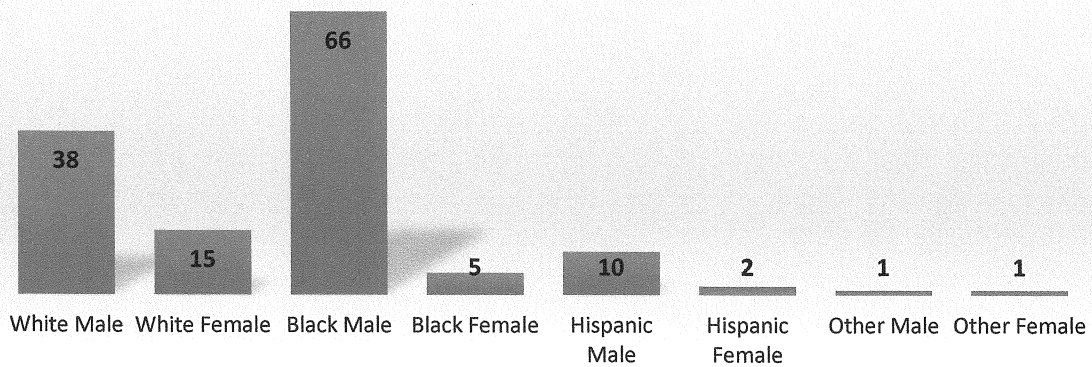
I conducted an analysis of the department's 88 use of force reports which were completed in 2018. 173 officers and 117 citizens were involved in these incidents. I reviewed data from all of the reports and produced the following statistical table using CALEA standards.

<b>2018 CALEA Use of Force Statistical Table</b>									
	White Male	White Female	Black Male	Black Female	Hispanic Male	Hispanic Female	Other Male	Other Female	Total
Firearm									
Discharge									0
Display	15	10	30	2	3	2	1	1	64
ECW									
Discharge	1		2						3
Display	8	1	14		3				26
Baton									0
Chemical/OC	7		5	1	2				15
Weaponless	7	4	15	2	2				30
Canine									
Release									0
Release and Bite									0
Total Uses of Force	38	15	66	5	10	2	1	1	138
Total Number of Suspects Receiving Non-Fatal Injuries	13	3	17	4	5				42
Total Number of Suspects Receiving Fatal Injuries									0
Total Number of Incidents Resulting in Officer Injury or Death	1	2	6	1	1				11
Total Use of Force Arrests	26	5	41	2	7	1			82
Total Use of Force Complaints	1								1

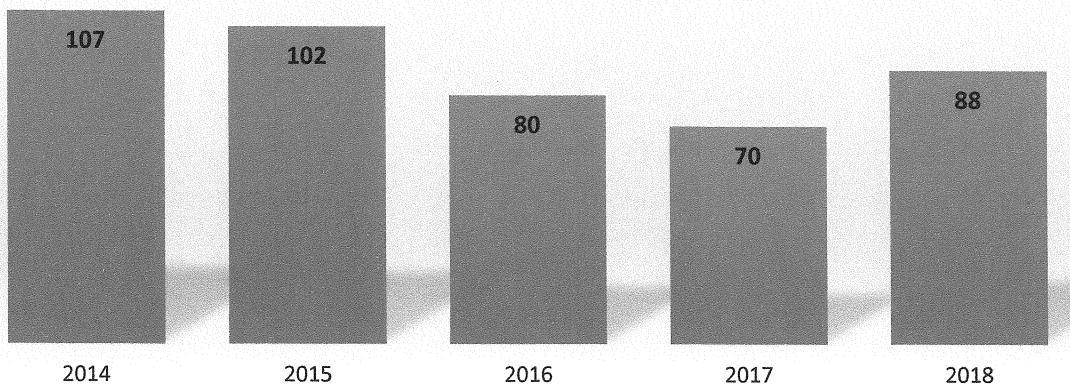
### 2018 Use of Force by Type



### 2018 Use of Force by Race and Gender



### 2014 - 2018 Use of Force Report Comparison



### Use of Force Report Reviews

All but one of the use of force report reviews were classified by the chain of command as justified or appropriate. The one UOF report in question was in reference to the officer's decision making. The reviews did find areas to improve with felony stops, officer safety and using 'excited utterances' while deploying force.

### Injuries

42 suspects and 11 officers were injured during these UOF incidents. All of the injuries were considered minor and when someone was taken to the hospital they were treated and released.

### Complaints

The department received one external complaint for excessive use of force which was closed 'exonerated' after the investigation and chain of command review. The UOF report was reviewed by the chain of command and determined to be appropriate.

### Counseling/Discipline

One officer received documented counseling for officer safety and one officer received verbal counseling documented on an employee performance record for decision making.

### Additional

I reviewed all of the ancillary use of force data to include location, month, day of the week, time of day and age and didn't find any patterns or trends in the data which required further scrutiny.

### **CONCLUSION:**

After analyzing all of the use of force reports, I didn't find anything to indicate a modification is needed to training or policy. I reviewed the department's policy and confirmed it includes all of the standards recommended by CALEA.

The oversight provided by the mandatory review of each use of force incident is essential to ensure officers involved are able to reevaluate their decisions and techniques outside the heat of the moment and therefore be better prepared for future occurrences.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

I will complete the next annual analysis of Use of Force reports in early 2020.